



Conference of Western Wayne



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CITIES

Belleville
Dearborn
Dearborn Heights
Garden City
Inkster
Livonia
Northville
Plymouth
Romulus
Wayne
Westland

TOWNSHIPS

Canton
Huron
Northville
Plymouth
Redford
Sumpter
Van Buren

Honorable Members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

Honorable Mike Nofs, Committee Chair, 62nd District
Honorable John M. Proos, Majority Vice-Chair, 79th District
Honorable Leon Drolet, 33rd District
Honorable Judy Emmons, 70th District
Honorable John Garfield, 45th District
Honorable Bill Huizenga, 90th District
Honorable Philip LaJoy, 21st District
Honorable David Palsrok, 101st District
Honorable John Stahl, 82nd District
Honorable Rick Baxter, 64th District
Honorable Tim Moore, 97th District
Honorable Tonya Schuitmaker, 80th District
Honorable Andy Dillon, Minority Vice-Chair, 17th District
Honorable Frank Accavitti Jr., 42nd District
Honorable Jeff Mayes, 96th District
Honorable Tupac Hunter, 9th District
Honorable Hoon-Yung Hopgood, 22nd District
Honorable Ed Clemente, 14th District
Honorable Matthew Gillard, 106th District

Marsha S. Bianconi
Executive Director

Helen Foster
Deputy Director

Date: May 24, 2006
Subject: HB 5895 Cable and Communications
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Thank you for taking time to consider the point of view from Conference of Western Wayne Mayors and Supervisors. You have many constituents in the CWW communities. We represent 18 Western Wayne County Michigan municipalities with a population base of 700,000 and our region is home to some of the most essential businesses in Michigan. At the conclusion of this testimony you will find a list of our member communities and elected officials. Our Board of Directors consists of the CWW region's 18 Chief Elected Officials. They are a Board that works in unity and with a collective voice. We believe you **consider the CWW region as a significant constituency.**

We will try to be brief on a subject that is extensive:

- **Local Officials Like Cable Competition**
- **Local Officials Welcome New Cable and/or Hi Speed Services in our Communities**
- **Local Officials Can Quickly Meet Businesses Franchise and Right of Way (ROW) Needs**
- **Local Oversight in our ROW is a Public Safety Matter**
- **Local Officials Want to Serve All Areas and Citizens in their Municipalities**
- **Public Access Channels have been Very Useful to You and to Keeping Public Information Transparent**
- **Hi Speed Internet and Communication Service is an Essential Service, therefore All Citizens and Businesses Must be Assured of such Service**
- **Lack of Hi Speed Access will Cost Jobs and Development if Locals cannot Guarantee its Availability**

HB 5895 jeopardizes all of the above. We urge you to work with those of us who have been on the front lines regarding this issue. You advised us that you intended to work with "interested parties" before this issue returned. It is distressing to learn that commitment may not be kept.

As fellow public servants, we urge you to do the right thing for all your constituents. Please reconsider the merits of bringing together the interested parties so that access and competition can be achieved to everyone's satisfaction.

A list of CWW Board members and their communities follow, but should you have any comments or questions, please contact:

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CWW Deputy Director
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Livonia, MI 48150
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CWW Board of Directors

Mayor Sandra Cicirelli, City of Westland, Chair

Mayor Jack Engebretson, City of Livonia, Vice Chair

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Supervisor Tom Yack, Canton Charter Township

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Mayor Chris Johnson, City of Northville

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